



News From MAIENstreet

A Neighborhood Newsletter From Councilman Brian Maienschein



June 2004

Volume 4 Issue 6

Proudly Representing the
District Five
Communities of:

*Carmel Mountain Ranch
Mira Mesa*

Rancho Bernardo

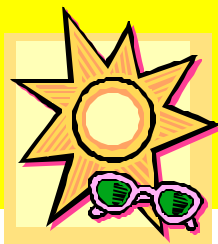
Sabre Springs

San Pasqual

Scripps Ranch

Sorrento Mesa

Sorrento Valley



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Maienschein Joins in Celebrating With Residents at RB Alive! Street Fair

More than 40,000 residents took advantage of a bright and sunny day on June 6, 2004, to fill the streets of Rancho Bernardo for the community's annual RB Alive! street fair.

One highlight of this festival is the announcement of the community's new honorary mayor. Each year, the candidate who raises the most money for the Rancho Bernardo Chamber of Commerce is given this prestigious honor. I am pleased to announce that Maureen Anderson-Rouleau is the community's honorary mayor for 2005. This year, Maureen and her opponent, Dr. Frank Goldsmith, raised \$38,000 for the Chamber. Congratulations!

In addition to the honorary mayor announcement, other highlights of this year's street fair included hundreds of vendors, a food court and a "strut your mutt" dog pageant.

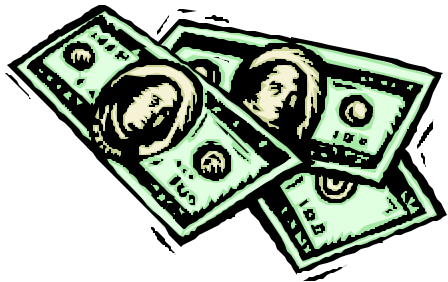


Councilmember Maienschein recognized new Honorary Mayor Maureen Anderson-Rouleau and runner-up, Dr. Frank Goldsmith, and other community volunteers at the RB Alive! Street Fair on June 6, 2004.

Maienschein Secures Protection of Community Funds

I am pleased to share with you that a proposed plan to use \$840,000 in Miramar Ranch North community funds for the City's general fund has been dropped by the City Manager's office.

This is very good news for Scripps Ranch, which has plans to spend the money on community improvement projects, including construction of a YMCA on Scripps Poway Parkway, improvements to athletic fields and street improvements in front of Marshall Middle School. These projects will greatly enhance our community so it was very important to me to preserve the funding.



The City Manager had proposed using the \$840,000 to help balance the City's fiscal 2005 budget. Although balancing the budget is a difficult task each year, it is particularly tough this year due to anticipated heavy cuts in state funding.

However, the proposal to raid the community of their money was totally improper. The \$840,000 is interest earned on fees developers paid when the Miramar Ranch North area was being planned and built. Dedicated community volunteers have spent countless hours working together to select the improvement projects and develop the plans to complete them. I felt it was wrong for the City Manager to attempt to raid our community funds and I'm pleased I was able to get the City Manager to take Miramar Ranch North's money out of the budget proposal so it would remain with the community. As you may recall, the City Manager also attempted to raid this fund and last year and it was saved only by a 5-4 City Council vote.

On June 14, 2004, Bill Bernard, chairman of the Miramar Ranch North Planning Committee (MRNPC), discussed the reasons why the money should remain with the community during an informative presentation to the City Council. I would like to thank Bill for all of the work he did in preparing the presentation and organizing community support for this issue. In addition, I would like to thank three other members of the MRNPC for their assistance: Kathy Anderson, David Berry and Claudia Unhold. The community group plans to allocate the funds this year so we do not have to save the money again next year.

A Fond Farewell

I would like to extend my condolences to the family of Thomas A. Whalen, a Scripps Ranch resident who passed away on May 21, 2004.

I met Tom, 77, in the days following the loss of his home during the Cedar Fire. Despite this devastating tragedy, Tom was committed to remaining in Scripps Ranch. He chose to rebuild his home on Handrich Drive. At the time of his death, Tom's new home was halfway finished. New Horizon Builders plans to complete the home for Tom's family.



Councilmember Maienschein with Tom on Oct. 28, 2003

Maienschein Family Expecting Special Delivery

My wife Janna and I are thrilled to announce that we are expecting our second child in December. We don't know yet if we're having a boy or a girl, but we'll keep you posted! Our daughter, Taylin, who turns 2 in September, is eagerly awaiting the arrival of her new brother or sister.

I would like to thank all of you who have sent their best wishes to Janna and me during this very exciting time for our family.



Maienschein Recognizes Mental Health Professionals

On June 4, 2004, I was honored to be the guest speaker and Master of Ceremonies at the 18th Annual Mental Health Professionals Dinner. Following is an excerpt from my remarks:

Since the Cedar Fire, I have spoken with hundreds of Scripps Ranch residents whose homes burned that terrible day in October 2003. I've witnessed the devastation on their faces and in their voices. I have heard that the stress of rebuilding has caused some marriages to fail. On the other hand, I also know that the difficulties experienced during the fire have strengthened the bond between some couples.

To assist fire victims during this difficult time, my office sponsored a series of Mental Health Nights at the Scripps Ranch Library. These evenings in March, April and May, consisted of presentations by psychology professors at Alliant International University, which has a campus on Pomerado Road in Scripps Ranch. The presentations dealt with a number of topics, including stress management and coping strategies for couples and families dealing with tragedy. After hearing these presentations, I developed a true appreciation for mental health professionals. Their jobs are so important to rebuilding the lives of San Diego residents who have suffered great losses. Their expertise may save the marriage of a couple struggling to communicate during the rebuilding process, help turn around a child whose grades are suffering, or lift the spirits of a single mother overwhelmed by her "Things to Do" list.

The services provided during the Mental Health Nights also helped many fire victims realize that they simply enjoyed being in the same room together. They don't see their neighbors as often as they used to since many fire victims are renting homes outside of Scripps Ranch while their homes are being rebuilt. They cherished the opportunity to talk with other families who lost their homes and are experiencing many of the same challenges during the rebuilding process. In addition to the trauma experienced by fire victims, obviously the whole community of Scripps Ranch was affected to some degree.

As you can imagine, the mental health of the fire victims varies by the day. When the City issues them a building permit, I've seen many faces light up! Many plan to go out and celebrate this accomplishment at a special dinner or other celebration. The celebrations are certainly well underway and are going to continue. As of mid-June, 85 permits have been issued to rebuild homes. Driving through the burned streets, it's very uplifting to see foundations being poured and frames going up! Thanks in part to mental health professionals, we are on our way to rebuilding the lives of Scripps Ranch fire victims.



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<http://www.sandiego.gov/city-council/district-5>

From my website, you can also sign up to receive **e-News from MAIENstreet** every month via e-mail.

It's a pleasure to serve you on the San Diego City Council!